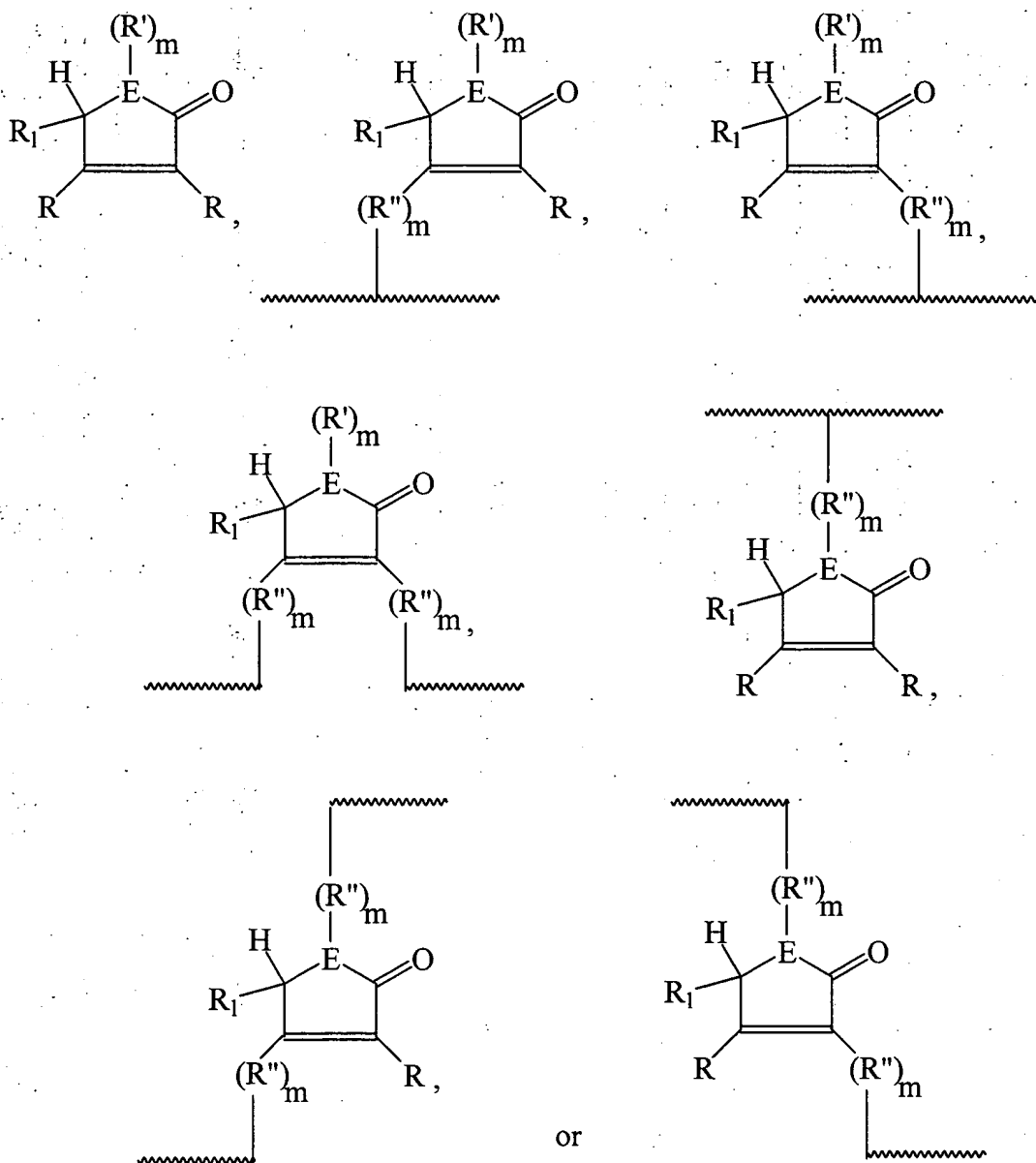


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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 to 20 (Canceled)

- 1 Claim 21. (New) A method of inhibiting the oxidation of a polymer comprising adding to a
2 polymer about 0.005 to about 10 phr of an antioxidant having the general formula



3 where, when an antioxidant is not a phthalide, said polymer is selected from the group
4 consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, polyethers, polyethylene, polypropylene,
5 and mixtures thereof and, when said antioxidant is a phthalide, said antioxidant is selected
6 from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, polyethers, and mixtures
7 thereof, and where E is O, S, or N, R₁ is H, R', OR', SR', OP(R')₂, or COR', each R is
8 independently selected from R₁, alkylenyl from C₁ to C₁₂, aminoalkyl from C₁ to C₁₂, and
9 hydroxyalkyl from C₁ to C₁₂, R' is alkyl from C₁ to C₁₂ or aryl, alkylaryl, or aralkyl from C₆
10 to C₁₂, R'' is G, GO, GS, GNH, NHG, NHGO, NHGNH, NHGS, OG, OGO, OGNH, OGS,
11 SGO, SGNH, or SGS, G is alkylenyl from C₁ to C₁₂, arylenyl from C₆ to C₁₂, alkylarylenyl
12 from C₇ to C₁₂, or arylalkylenyl from C₇ to C₁₂, m is 0 if E is O or S and is 1 if E is N, and
13 two R groups can join to form an alicyclic ring or an aromatic ring or an R group and an R₁
14 group can join to form an alicyclic ring.

Claim 22. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein E is O.

Claim 23. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein R is OR'.

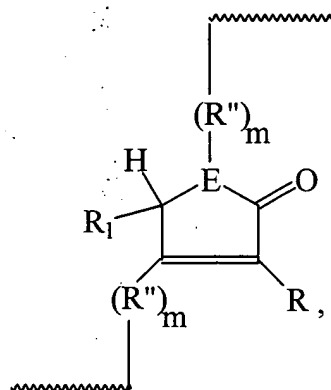
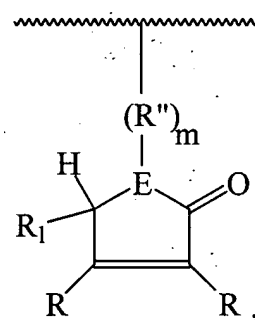
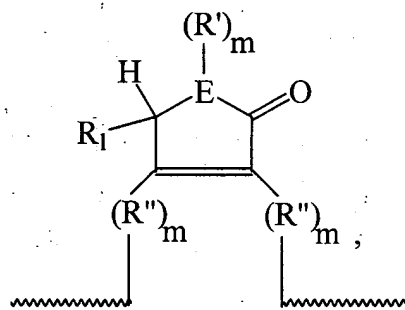
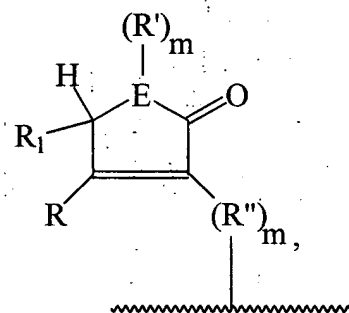
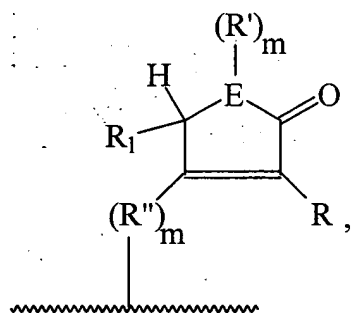
Claim 24. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein two R groups join to form an aromatic ring.

Claim 25. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein E is N and R' is alkyl from C₁ to

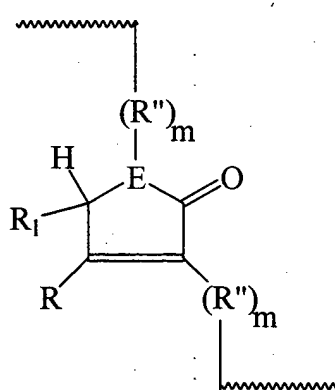
C₁₂

Claim 26. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein R₁ is H.

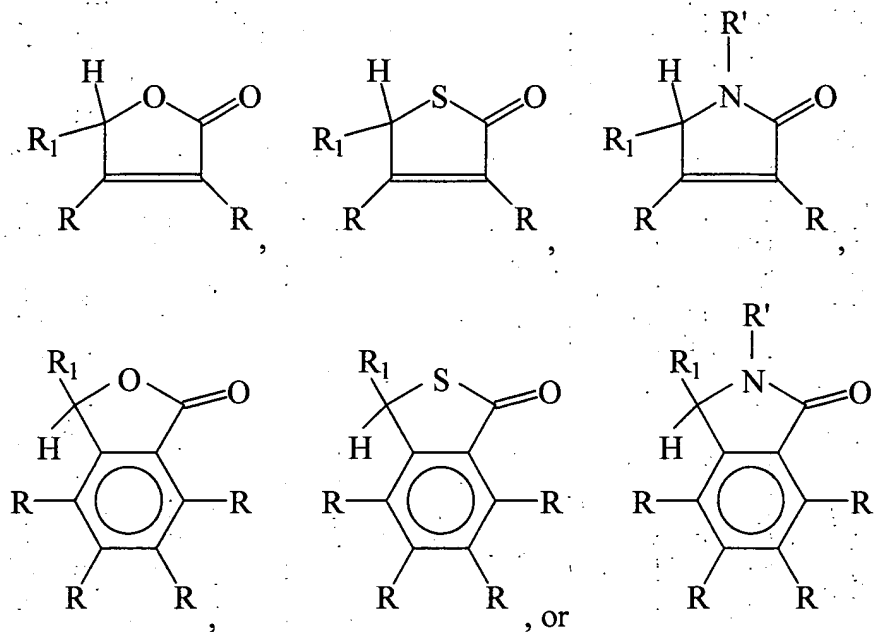
Claim 27. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant has the general formula



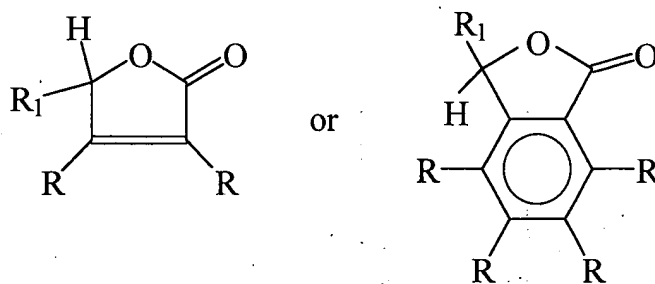
or



Claim 28. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant is



Claim 29. (New) A method according to Claim 28 wherein said antioxidant has the formula



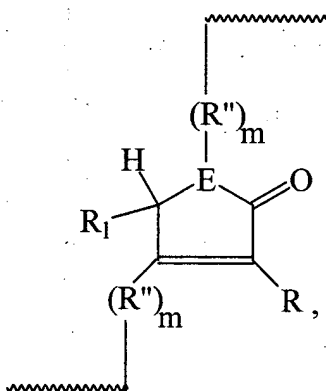
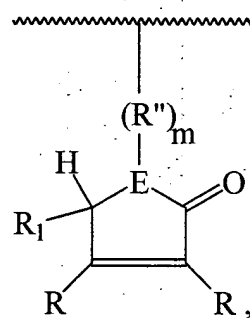
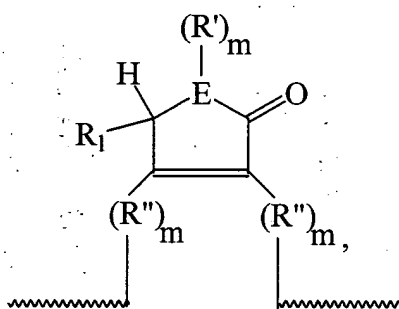
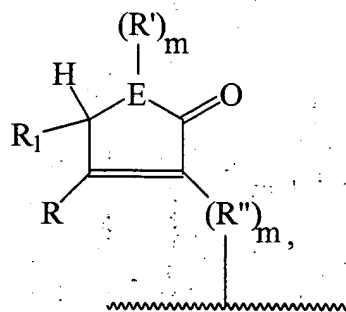
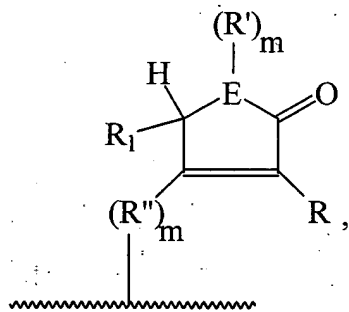
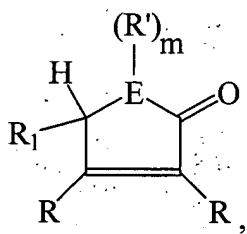
Claim 30. (New) A method according to Claim 29 wherein R is OR' and R_1 is H .

Claim 31. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polyethylene, polypropylene, polycarbonates, and mixtures thereof.

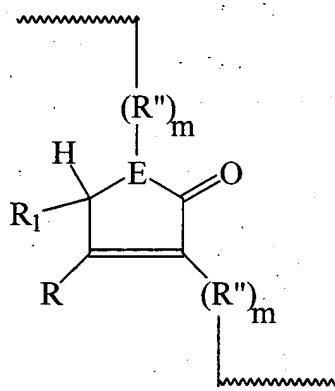
Claim 32. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant is added during the polymerization of said polymer.

Claim 33. (New) A method according to Claim 21 wherein said antioxidant is added during compounding said polymer.

1 Claim 34. (New) A method of inhibiting the oxidation of a polymer comprising adding to a
2 polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates,
3 polyethers, and mixtures thereof, about 0.005 to about 10 phr of an antioxidant having the
4 general formula



or

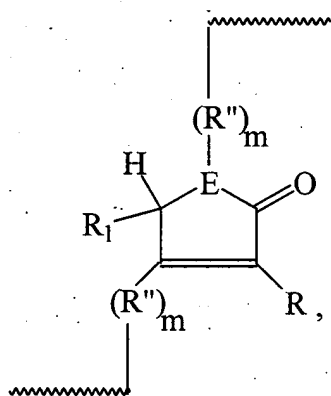
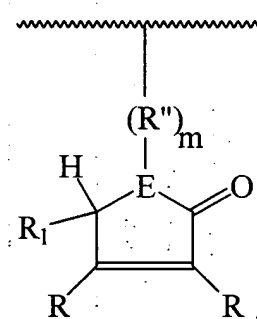
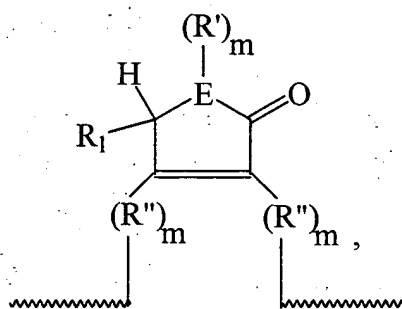
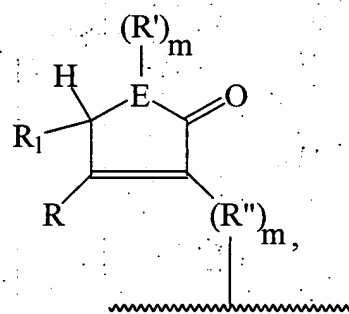
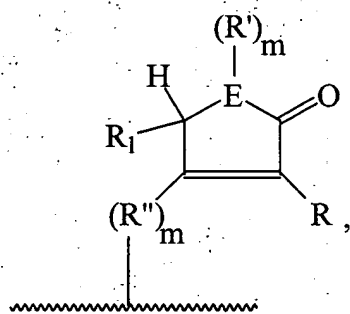


- 5 where each R is independently selected from H or OR', and R' is alkyl from C₁ to C₁₂, R₁
 6 is H, R'' is alkylenyl from C₁ to C₁₂, arylenyl from C₆ to C₁₂, alkylarylenyl from C₇ to C₁₂, and
 7 arylalkylenyl from C₇ to C₁₂, and E is O.

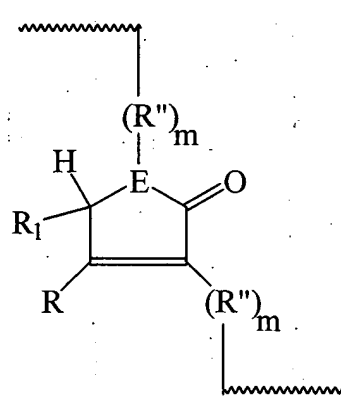
35. (New) A method according to Claim 34 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, and mixtures thereof.

36. (New) A method according to Claim 34 wherein R is H.

37. (New) A method according to Claim 34 wherein said antioxidant has the general formula

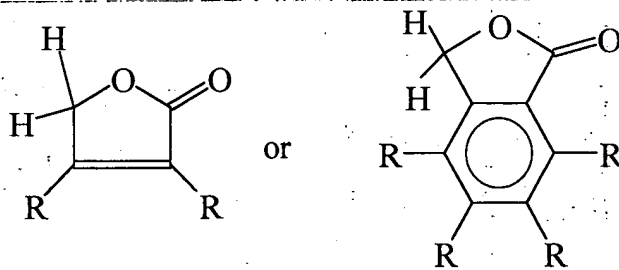


or



- 1 Claim 38. (New) A method of inhibiting the oxidation of a polymer adding to a polymer
- 2 selected from the group consisting of poly(vinylchloride), polycarbonates, polyethers, and
- 3 mixtures thereof, during compounding about 0.2 to about 5 phr of an antioxidant having

4 the general formula



5 where each R is independently selected from H or OR' and R' is alkyl from C₁ to C₁₂.

Claim 39. (New) A method according to Claim 38 wherein R is H.

Claim 40. (New) A method according to Claim 38 wherein R is OR'.